



**Billing Code 4333–15**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**[Docket No. FWS–HQ–IA–2020–0091; FXIA16710900000–201–FF09A30000]**

**Foreign Endangered Species; Receipt of Permit Applications**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on applications to conduct certain activities with foreign species that are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). With some exceptions, the ESA prohibits activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is issued that allows such activities. The ESA also requires that we invite public comment before issuing permits for any activity otherwise prohibited by the ESA with respect to any endangered species.

**DATES:** We must receive comments by **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]**.

**ADDRESSES:**

***Obtaining Documents:*** The applications, application supporting materials, and any comments and other materials that we receive will be available for public inspection at <http://www.regulations.gov> in Docket No. FWS–HQ–IA–2020–0091.

***Submitting Comments:*** When submitting comments, please specify the name of the applicant and the permit number at the beginning of your comment. You may submit comments by one of the following methods:

- ***Internet:*** <http://www.regulations.gov>. Search for and submit comments on Docket

No. FWS–HQ–IA–2020–0091.

- *U.S. mail or hand-delivery:* Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No.

FWS–HQ–IA–2020–0091; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters, MS:

PRB/3W; 5275 Leesburg Pike; Falls Church, VA 22041–3803.

For more information, see **Public Comment Procedures** under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Brenda Tapia, by phone at 703–358–2185, via email at [DMAFR@fws.gov](mailto:DMAFR@fws.gov), or via the Federal Relay Service at 800–877–8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Public Comment Procedures**

**A. How Do I Comment on Submitted Applications?**

We invite the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies to comment on these applications. Before issuing any of the requested permits, we will take into consideration any information that we receive during the public comment period.

You may submit your comments and materials by one of the methods in **ADDRESSES**. We will not consider comments sent by email or fax, or to an address not in **ADDRESSES**. We will not consider or include in our administrative record comments we receive after the close of the comment period (see **DATES**).

When submitting comments, please specify the name of the applicant and the permit number at the beginning of your comment. Provide sufficient information to allow us to authenticate any scientific or commercial data you include. The comments and recommendations that will be most useful and likely to influence agency decisions are:

(1) Those supported by quantitative information or studies; and (2) those that include citations to, and analyses of, the applicable laws and regulations.

### **B. May I Review Comments Submitted by Others?**

You may view and comment on others' public comments at <http://www.regulations.gov>, unless our allowing so would violate the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) or Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

### **C. Who Will See My Comments?**

If you submit a comment at <http://www.regulations.gov>, your entire comment, including any personal identifying information, will be posted on the website. If you submit a hardcopy comment that includes personal identifying information, such as your address, phone number, or email address, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Moreover, all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

## **II. Background**

To help us carry out our conservation responsibilities for affected species, and in consideration of section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), we invite public comments on permit applications before final action is taken. With some exceptions, the ESA prohibits certain activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is issued that allows such activities. Permits issued under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA allow otherwise prohibited activities for scientific purposes or to enhance the propagation or survival of the affected species. Service

regulations regarding prohibited activities with endangered species, captive-bred wildlife registrations, and permits for any activity otherwise prohibited by the ESA with respect to any endangered species are available in title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations in part 17.

### **III. Permit Applications**

We invite comments on the following applications.

#### **Applicant: Memphis Zoological Society, Memphis, TN; Permit No. 052166**

The applicant requests reissuance of their permit for scientific research with two captive-born giant pandas (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*) and their offspring currently held under loan agreement with the Government of China and under provision of the USFWS Giant Panda Policy. The proposed research will cover all aspects of behavior, reproductive physiology, nutrition, and animal health, and is a continuation of activities currently in progress. This notice covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

#### **Applicant: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Eagle and Wildlife Property Repository, Commerce City, CO; Permit No. 76282D**

The applicant requests a permit to import 9 kilograms of confiscated wild pangolin scales (*Manis spp.*, potentially including *Manis temminckii*) from Kowloon, Hong Kong, for the purpose of enhancing the propagation or survival of the species. This notification is for a single import.

**Applicant: United States Geological Survey, National Wildlife Health Center,  
Honolulu, HI; Permit No. 105568**

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples and carcasses from wild, captive-held, or captive-born animals for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

**Applicant: Minnesota Zoological Gardens, Apple Valley, MN; Permit No. 66472D**

The applicant requests a permit to export four male and four female captive-born Przewalski's horses (*Equus przewalskii*) to the Orenburg Nature Reserve, Orenburg, Russia, for the purpose of enhancing the propagation or survival of the species. This notification is for a single export.

**Applicant: Stanford University, Stanford, CA; Permit No. 69314D**

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples derived from wild brown mouse lemurs (*Microcebus rufus*), taken in Madagascar, and captive-born grey mouse lemurs (*Microcebus murinus*), taken in France, for the purpose of scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

**Applicant: Ryan Blakley, Lubbock TX; Permit No. 27473B**

The applicant requests a captive-bred wildlife registration under 50 CFR 17.21(g) for the following species, to enhance the propagation or survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Common Name	Scientific Name
Radiated tortoise	<i>Geochelone radiata</i>
Galapagos tortoise	<i>Geochelone nigra</i>

Yellow-spotted side-necked turtle	<i>Podocnemis unifilis</i>
Ring-tailed lemur	<i>Lemur catta</i>
Black-and-white ruffed lemur	<i>Varecia variegata</i>
Red ruffed lemur	<i>Varecia rubra</i>
Cotton-headed tamarin	<i>Saguinus oedipus</i>

**Applicant: University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX; Permit No. 93328C**

The applicant requests authorization to export and reimport nonliving museum specimens of endangered species previously accessioned into the applicant's collection for scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

#### **IV. Next Steps**

After the comment period closes, we will make decisions regarding permit issuance. If we issue permits to any of the applicants listed in this notice, we will publish a notice in the *Federal Register*. You may locate the notice announcing the permit issuance by searching <http://www.regulations.gov> for the permit number listed above in this document. For example, to find information about the potential issuance of Permit No. 12345A, you would go to [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and search for "12345A".

#### **V. Authority**

We issue this notice under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and its implementing regulations.

**Brenda Tapia,**  
*Management Analyst/Program Analyst,*  
*Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.*  
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